

Table 79. Combined current and deflated value by major gear type for New Hanover County from 1994-2001.

Gear	Current	Deflated	% Value
Pots	\$5,178,509	\$1,326,236	22.60
Rod-n-Reel	\$4,587,911	\$1,193,224	20.02
Trawls	\$4,516,030	\$1,185,336	19.71
Trolling	\$3,116,586	\$809,495	13.60
Rakes	\$1,509,270	\$393,901	6.59
Gill net	\$1,443,370	\$374,091	6.30
By hand	\$1,285,574	\$331,053	5.61
Other	\$1,277,754	\$338,107	5.58
Total	\$22,915,002	\$5,951,442	100.00

The number of dealers recording landings in New Hanover County remained fairly constant from 1994-1997 and then exhibited an overall increasing trend from 1997-2001 (Table A31). The number of vessels recording landings fluctuated from 1994-1997 and then declined from 1997-1999 and then increased again in 2000 (Table A31). The number of vessels ended the period with a slight decline in 2001 (Table A31). The number of licenses issued increased in 1995 and then declined from 1995-1997 (Table A31). The number of licenses issued then increased overall from 1997-2001 (Table A31). The number of fishermen reporting landings fluctuated from 1994-1999 and then increased from 1999-2001 (Table A31). Commercial fishermen do not compose a large portion of the workforce in New Hanover County ranging from 0.31% in 1999 to 0.53% in 1995. The average fishing income fluctuated from 1994-1997 and then increased in 1998 (Table A31). The average fishing income then fluctuated from 1998-2001 to end the period (Table A31). Likewise, the percent of the average fishing income relative to the average annual wage per worker followed the same trends as the average fishing income and ranged from 15.69% in 1996 to 33.44% in 2000 (Table A31).

The increase in the average fishing income in 1995, 1997 and 2000 is correlated with a corresponding increase in landings for commercial fishermen residing in New Hanover County. The increase in the average fishing income in 1998 appears to be due to a decline in the number of commercial fishermen with only a slight decline in harvest. The decline in the average fishing income in 1996, 1997 and 1999 is correlated with a